(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal is at present and the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision thereon is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Disaster Management Act, 2005 inter-alia provides that the Government may constitute a National Disaster Response Fund and a National Disaster Mitigation Fund. The dates on which relevant provisions of the Act will come into force are yet to be notified by the Government.

Review of AFSPA

935. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Review Committee appointed by Government following widespread agitation in Manipur calling for withdrawal of the Armed Forces Special Power Act in force of North-Eastern region has given its report; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (S.REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Committee constituted by Ministry of Home Affairs to review the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 as amended in 1972 has submitted its report to Ministry of Home Affairs on 6.6.05. The recommendations of the Committee contained in its report are being examined and a decision in the matter is yet to be taken.

Nexus Between Naxal Extremists and LTTE/Maoists of Nepal

936. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the increasing nexus between extremists of India and the LTTE and Maoists of Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to contain the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) There are no reports to indicate

any links between the naxalites and the LTTE of Sri Lanka. However, available reports suggest the continued fraternal and logistic (non-strategic) links between CPN (Maoists) and Indian Naxal groups.

(b) While the LTTE continues to be banned as a terrorist organization and also as an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2004, vigil along the Indo-Napal border has been stepped up and border management in this sector strengthened to prevent any likely spillover of undesirable activities of CPN (Maoists) into the States including UP, Bihar, West Bengal bordering Nepal.

Phone tapping of leaders of political parties

†937. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that top leaders of several political parties have alleged that their telephones are being tapped;

(b) if so, whether proper prior permission from the competent officials of Central Government was obtained as per the phone tapping law;

(c) if so, the factual details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who have been found involved in the incidents of phone tapping without proper permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Only one instance of unauthorized telephone tapping of Shri Amar Singh, Hon'ble MP, Rajya Sabha, has come to the notice of the Government. Government is taking appropriate legal action in this regard.

Foreign companies involved in spying

†938. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many offices of foreign companies which are

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.